

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Voluntary    Public

**Date:** 10/31/2013

**GAIN Report Number:** PI1328

## Poland

**Post:** Warsaw

### **FAS Warsaw Assists in Release of U.S. Pet Food Shipment.**

**Report Categories:**

Trade Policy Monitoring

**Approved By:**

Michael Henney, Agricultural Attaché

**Prepared By:**

Piotr Rucinski, Agricultural Specialist

**Report Highlights:**

In July 2013, FAS Warsaw intervened to gain the release of a U.S. pet food shipment from Missouri valued at USD 60,000. The Polish Veterinary Border Inspection Service had detained the shipment due to the health certificate not containing the EU's newly required TSE/BSE-free declaration. Intervention by FAS Warsaw, in collaboration with APHIS/Brussels, resulted also with EU DG Sanco issuing an EU-wide blanket authorization for import of animal-by-products and derived products based on the previous certification specified in Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 until the new TSE attestation form would become available.

**General Information:**

On July 11, 2013, a Polish importer of U.S. pet food approached FAS Warsaw for assistance regarding new EU requirements for TSE/BSE declaration attached to the health certificate. The issue - the Veterinary Border Inspection Service at the Polish port of Gdynia detained the shipment for the Health Certificate's omission of the new TSE/BSE declaration per EU requirements published in the Official EU Journal on June 29, 2013 with the enforcement date of July 1, 2013. We learned that the Commission Regulation (EU) No 630/2013 of 28 June 2013 amended the Annexes to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules for the prevention, control, and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

See <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:179:0060:0083:EN:PDF>

The importer informed that USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) had refused to sign and attach the new TSE/BSE declaration to the Health Certification for pet food. The reason given by the importer was APHIS was not aware of the changes to Commission Regulation (EU) No 630/2013.

FAS Warsaw contacted the APHIS/Brussels Office and the Department of Border Veterinary Inspection in the Polish General Veterinary Inspectorate (GVI) for clarification. The GVI confirmed that the new regulation was in place. It did note that because of the brief lead time between publication of the regulation and enforcement it would consult with the European Commission on possible extension of phase in period before implementation of the new TSE\BSE attestation.

As a result of our inquiry, on August 5, 2013, DG SANCO notified all EU Member States veterinary authorities that they were to authorize imports of animal-by-products (ABPs) and derived products as provided for in Regulation (EU) No 142/2011, as last amended, until the new TSE attestation becomes available.

The immediate result of the FAS Warsaw assistance was release of two containers of the U.S. origin pet food valued at US\$ 60,000. In 2012, Poland imported U.S. pet food valued at US\$ 1,138,000 including US\$ 310,000 that entered via other EU member states. In the first seven months of 2013, value of total imports of U.S. origin pet food to Poland amounted to US\$ 931,000, a 60 percent increase in comparison to the same period of previous year.

